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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Administration
Washington, D. C.

November 3, 1942

BUTTER GRADERS MEMORANDUM No. 1

To: All Butter Graders

From: Roy C. Potts, Chief, Inspection and Grading Division, Dairy
and Poultry Branch

Subject: Announcement FSC-1020, Covering Purchase of Salted Creamery
Butter by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

The Agricultural Marketing Administration announces that it intends to purchase salted creamery butter (fresh or storage) and that until further notice, offers for the sale of this product may be submitted so as to be received by the Purchase Branch, Agricultural Marketing Administration not later than 11:00 A.M. (EWT) on each Wednesday beginning October 21, 1942, for acceptance not later than the following Friday. Offers must be submitted with an original and four (4) signed copies on form PbP 1020, copy of which is attached hereto, together with Announcement FSC-1020. A tolerance of 1% in pounds will be permitted in the total quantity contracted for delivery but no carlot shipment shall be less than the minimum carlot for the classification territory in which the shipment originates and in no case less than 24,000 pounds.

All butter for delivery to the F.S.C.C. shall be ready for grading on the date indicated in the offer, which date shall not be later than two weeks after the Wednesday for which the offer is submitted. Please note that grading and weight certificate dated not more than two weeks in advance of the Wednesday for which the offer was submitted is acceptable, provided that such butter, after grading and weighing shall be kept under proper refrigeration and sanitary conditions until the time of delivery.

It shall be incumbent upon the vendor to arrange with the A.M.A. for the grading of the butter prior to delivery. The quality and weight of the product shall be evidenced by certificates issued by the Agricultural Marketing Administration and all grading and weighing costs shall be paid by the vendor. The vendor should be supplied with the original and three copies of the grading and weight certificate.

Before making the test weight, the scale should be tested to determine that it is accurate. This test should be made at zero and at the fifty pound mark. Scales which are not sensitive to at least one-quarter pound should not be used to make official test weights. Scales sensitive from one-eighth to one-sixteenth pound are preferred. At least one package selected by the grader from each churning shall be used in making the weight test. The butter, exclusive of the container, should be placed on the scale with the circles and liners but with the excess salt removed.

(See other side) Roy C. Potts

Before recording the test weight, deduction must be made for the circles and liners. The circles and liners for tub packed butter weigh on an average 2 oz. when dry or damp, and three oz. when wet. Liners for butter cubes weigh on an average of 3 oz. if dry or damp and 4 oz. when wet. When weight tests are made on butter packed in barrels, ten or more of the barrel liners should be weighed together in order to ascertain the proper weight to deduct for liners. Test weights should be recorded in full pounds, one-half pounds, or one-quarter pounds; if the test weight does not fall on a full pound or a full one-half or one-quarter pound, it should be recorded as the next lower one-quarter or one-half pound. If the test weight exceeds the marked net weight for any given churning, the test weight for that churning may be marked as "O.K." on the graders memorandum. If the test weight for any given churning is less than the marked net weight, multiply the shortage in the package weighed by the number of packages in the churning to ascertain the total shortage for that particular churning. To compute the net contract weight of the entire carload of butter, subtract the total amount of shortages for all the churnings from the total marked net weight for all the churnings.

The butter delivered shall meet the requirements for U. S. 90, U. S. 91, U. S. 92 score or better as offered. Each churning of butter must be at least forty-eight hours old at the time of grading.

The butter may be solid packed in either new standard wooden tubs, new wooden cubes or new wooden barrels. Each container shall be plainly stenciled or otherwise marked on one side with the name of the product, net contents, churn number, vendor's name and address, contract number, vendor's lot number and such other legend as may be prescribed by the F.S.C.C. prior to the shipment. Stencils on barrels should be placed near the top.

In connection with the liquidated damage clause for late deliveries, each grader shall keep an accurate record of the date on which the sampling was requested by the vendor and if for any reason the grader is unable to render the grading service in time to permit the vendor to make delivery on the date specified in the offer, he should send a detail report of facts to this office giving the date when inspection was requested, the date inspection was performed, and the reason for the delay. This report should be sent immediately after the grading is actually made.

If the butter, at the time of grading, is held in a plant or private warehouse, each package in the lot should be stamped with a U. S. D.A. lot number or with a "graded for quality" stamp. The actual grade of the butter should not be stamped on the container. For lots which are held in a public warehouse, stamping is not considered essential.

Certificates shall show the Vendor as the applicant and also the seller and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation as the receiver or buyer when this fact is known. Certificates should also show the FSC contract number when this is known. When storage butter is graded, the storage lot number should also be given.

The number of packages in each churning should be shown on the certificate and a notation should be made on the certificate to the effect that the test weights given, are after the weight of the circles and liners has been deducted.

If at any time there are any questions relative to the proper procedure in handling this work, please contact this office.

W. J. Smith

